MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

SECOND SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

Volume VI (Nos. 1 to 12).

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) The question does not arise."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" May I know, Sir, if the Forest officials are still interfering with podu cultivation and whether the Government will be prepared to consider introducing provisions adopted by Madhya Pradesh and set apart areas for podu cultivation as the hillmen cannot easily be induced to give it up? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I do not think this arises out of the question. The question was whether representations have been received by the Government in respect of podu cultivation and the answer is ' no '."

Hindi Pandits.

* 400 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for extending the period of Pracharak training for Hindi Pandits; and

(*b*) whether other language pandits also are having such Pracharak Training courses?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) The Pracharak diploma course consists of two parts, literary and technical. To meet the demand for qualified Hindi teachers, the Dakshina Bharat Hindustani Prachar Sabha decided to train Hindi teachers by imparting instruction in technical part only for a short period of three months and such trained teachers were required to complete the literary part by private study within two years. As a sufficient number of teachers had already been trained, the Sabha has decided to stop the concession and to conduct the course for nine months giving instruction in both literary and technical parts from the current year.

" (*b*) Pandits in languages other than Hindi have to undergo Pandit's training courses. This course which extended to nine months has been reduced to six months from the current year as it was found in actual practice that the syllabus could be covered in six months."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the period of the Pracharak training has been extended but their salary has not been enhanced and on account of the new policy of the Government a number of Hindi Pandits have to be removed from service. May I know, Sir, what action the Government propose to take in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADAHVA MENON :—" I do not find any connection between the period of training which is fixed by the Hindi Prachaark Sabha and the pay of the pracharak."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Now that Hindi is to be taught in all schools may I know whether the Government are proposing to have their own training schools to train these Hindi teachers? " 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the Government are not going to start their own training schools to train Hindi pandits and in view of the fact that the Hindi Prachar Sabha is to train the necessary Hindi teachers, both in quality and quantity, may I know whether the Government will give any grant to the Hindi Prachar Sabha, and if so, how much? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Hindi Prachar Sabha does get a grant; but what it is, I cannot say now."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY :—" May I know, Sir, what are the qualifications prescribed for these new recruits, and who is the agency authorised for such recruitment? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON.—" There must be a basic qualification, perhaps Visharad (I do not know exactly what it is); and I think, they are recruited by the Hindi Prachar Sabha and by the department concerned."

Narasaraopet Electric Corporation.

* 401 *Q.*—SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI (on behalf of Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Narasaraopet Electric Corporation has asked the Government to take over their concern as long ago as March 1950; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in this matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Government have already served on the licensee an order under section 4 of the Madras Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Act, 1949, declaring that his undertaking shall vest in them on 25th January 1951."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI :—" Sir, is it the intention of the Government to take over the concern, put in any machinery necessary there to generate the current and run the concern, or do they propose to bring the current from Bezwada thermal station, and if so when, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" As soon as the Government take over the concern on 25th January 1951, they will put the concern in order and run it; till they are able to get power from elsewhere they will take power from the Bezwada thermal station."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that this corporation has been working at a great loss for the last few years? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not have the balance sheet of the corporation with me, Sir."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—"Is not the Hon. Minister aware that the innumerable holidays that are being given by the Government are causing dislocation of work and that there is a lot of complaint everywhere? Will the Government therefore reduce the number of holidays and bring the same into line with other progressive countries of the world?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"We shall consider the suggestion to reduce the number of holidays; it is not as if we are anxious to keep far too many holidays on the list; but in view of the various religions practised by the people and the too many holidays in India, we are obliged to give some of these holidays."

Hindi pandits.

*470 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation that many Hindi pandits are about to be ousted out due to the recent change in study of Hindi and, if so, what action the Government have taken;

(*b*) the number of periods allotted to Hindi in a week in the schools where it is a compulsory subject as well as in the schools where it is taught as an optional subject;

(*c*) whether the Government have got any proposal to increase the number of periods in the schools where it is a compulsory subject;

(*d*) whether Hindi is a subject for examination in both these schools; and

(*e*) if not, whether the Government have got any proposal to make it an examination subject in the schools where it is a compulsory subject as well as in the schools where it is an optional subject?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"(*a*) A resolution passed by the Hindi Teachers' Association of Visakhapatnam suggesting that many Hindi pandits will be ousted as a result of the Government making the language optional has come to the notice of the Government. No other representation on the lines indicated has been received. It is quite possible that there will be a reduction in the number of Hindi teachers employed in certain middle and high schools consequent on the allotment of two periods a week for the study of the language owing to Hindi being made an optional third language, and that some of the schools may not need the services of as many pandits as before. The teachers, if any, displaced will, however, have chances of being absorbed in services in the newly opened secondary schools and in the additional sections in existing schools. The Government do not consider that any special action is called for in the matter, in view of the increasing importance of the language and of the provision made for its study in the schools.

"(*b*) In schools in which the language will be studied by students as a first language, the number of periods allotted for the study will be seven—*four* under Part I and *three* under Part II in a week. The number of periods per week for its study as a third language will be two.

"(*c*) No. Only the question of increasing the number of periods allotted for the study of Hindi as a third language has been raised and is under examination.

"(*d*) Yes.

"(*e*) The question does not arise."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government consider that two periods are enough for the students who are studying Hindi as the third language in the State and do they consider whether fifteen years will be sufficient for them to make Hindi the *lingua franca* of the country?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"Evidently, Sir, my hon. Friend did not follow or hear the answer to clause (c). I said that the question of increasing the number of periods allotted for the study of Hindi has been raised and it is under examination."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that during the first Congress Ministry, the number of periods in Part II was more than four and now it happens that after Hindi is declared to be the *lingua franca* of India and it is very desirable for pupils in the State to learn it, the number of periods has been cut down to two; is it not an inconsistency and will the Government rectify it, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"At that time, the orders were to teach Hindi for three years but now it is for teaching Hindi for six years from Form I to Form VI; I have already said that the question of raising the hours for Hindi is under examination."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY :—"Will the Government consider the desirability of giving general instructions to the schools where Hindi pandits are selected or chosen to retain them for the new courses instead of their being ousted?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"We have not received any complaints of any person being ousted and ousted persons not being provided for; it is only a hypothetical position that they might be displaced."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—"In the interests of the Hindi pandit and in the interests of the spread of the language, are the Government prepared to make out a list of persons that may be ousted on account of the recent arrangements and willing to direct the various institutions to draw from this list in accordance with seniority?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"All these questions arise upon the assumption that people have been ousted; we have not received any such complaint."

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SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (*d*) , may I know, Sir, whether it is obligatory on the part of the student to secure pass marks in the examination in Hindi to entitle him to be promoted to the next class? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" If they do not secure pass marks, they will fail in that subject; that is all."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY :—" May I inform the Hon. Minister that the Hindi Pandit of the Municipal High School, Ootacamund, has been refused leave to attend the new pandit course? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is an individual grievance and he should not bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister by means of a question."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I ask, Sir, whether this question of the re-absorption of teachers thrown out of employment on account of the present rules reducing the number of periods for Hindi has been raised as a specified item and representations have been made in that direction by the Visakhapatnam Hindi Teachers' Association? That is my information, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" They said that some are likely to be affected and we do not know whether any have been actually ousted."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister that the teachers being thrown out of employment is not a matter of assumption or likelihood and may I submit as the head of one of the local authorities that we are obliged to oust one gentleman soon? I want to know from the Hon. Minister what action the Government will take to provide for the absorption of those teachers? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not think it is the business of the Government to provide for all cases where a particular person has been ousted. The demand, as a matter of fact, is so much that there is no likelihood of a person remaining without being absorbed in the new schools."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the frequent changes of policy during and in the middle of the year made by the Government do not cast a moral obligation on the Government to make a provision for those affected by it? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I shall see that these frequent changes are not made."

Scale of rice ration.

* 471 *Q.*—SRI M. A. EASWARAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state at how many ounces of rice per head per day for the people in the statutorily rationed area and